

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 05650 050120Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /136 W
-----113635 051337Z /47

R 050106Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6784
TREASURY/DEP WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 05650

DEPT PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

USEEC ALSO FOR AMEMBASSY

USMTN ALSO FOR USMISSION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, ECIN, EIND, MTN, OECD, JA
SUBJECT: HEIMLICH/RAY DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPANESE ON STEEL

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 05650 050120Z

REF: (A) TOKYO 5241, (B) TOKYO 5369
1. RICHARD HEIMLICH OF STR VISITED TOKYO MARCH 30-31 FOR
DISCUSSIONS WITH GOJ OFFICIALS ON STEEL TRADE AND OTHER
MATTERS. JOHN RAY OF TREASURY MET WITH MITI AND STEEL
INDUSTRY REPS ON MARCH 30 FOR USEFUL DISCUSSIONS ON
TRIGGER PRICE SYSTEM (TPS) AND COURT CHALLENGES OF THAT
SYSTEM, AND ALONG WITH EMBOFFS, SAT IN ON HEIMLICH TALKS.

RAY'S TALKS CONSIDERABLY ALLAYED CONCERN THAT TPS WOULD NOT BE LEGALLY DEFENSIBLE IN THE U.S.

2. HEIMLICH ARRIVED LATE ON MARCH 30, AND HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH MOFA, MITI AND MOF OFFICIALS ON FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING TRADE IN STEEL AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL STEEL COMMITTEE. HE EXPLAINED THE IMPORTANCE OF SOME SUCH ARRANGEMENT TO U.S. INDUSTRY AND THE CONGRESS, BOTH OF WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ASSURANCES OF THAT KIND AS THE MTN NEGOTIATIONS ARE COMPLETED AND REVIEWED BY THE CONGRESS. HE DESCRIBED THE PURPOSE OF THE ARRANGEMENT AS PROVIDING A PERMANENT FORUM FOR CONSULTATION ON STEEL TRADE PROBLEMS AND FOR CLARIFYING RULES AND STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO THAT TRADE. HE ENVISAGED A MECHANISM WHICH COULD GO BEYOND THE MANDATE OF THE EXISTING OECD STEEL COMMITTEE AND OPERATE OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF THE MTN. HE URGED THE JAPANESE TO SEND A POLICY LEVEL OFFICIAL TO JOIN EXPLORATORY TALKS IN BRUSSELS ON APRIL 11.

3. THE JAPANESE RESPONSE WAS CAUTIOUS, BUT NOT NEGATIVE. THEY ASKED MANY QUESTIONS ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH A PROPOSAL IN SATISFYING CONGRESSIONAL CONCERNS, ITS ACCEPTABILITY TO THE EC, MEMBERSHIP, AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE OECD AND THE MTN.

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 05650 050120Z

4. THE JAPANESE SEEM TO US TO HAVE BEEN REASSURED BY HEIMLICH'S ANSWERS TO THEIR QUESTIONS. AFTER THE TALKS AT MOFA A SENIOR OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF PRIVATELY THAT HE HOPED THE MANY QUESTIONS POSED BY HIS SIDE WOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS A NEGATIVE RESPONSE. HE SAID HE WAS QUITE CONFIDENT THAT THE GOJ WOULD PARTICIPATE IN TALKS IN BRUSSELS, BUT WAS NOT CERTAIN THAT MITI DIRECTOR GENERAL AMAYA WOULD BE AVAILABLE AT THAT TIME.

5. AT MITI ON THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 31 CONSIDERABLE TIME WAS ALSO SPENT ON THE COLOR TV DUMPING ASSESSMENT CASE REPORTED REFTELS.

6. ABOVE NOT CLEARED BY HEIMLICH OR RAY. MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, STEELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TOKYO05650
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780147-0075
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO EEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780488/aaaacwxt.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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